

REMARKS

None of pending Claims 1–33 is currently amended. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1–33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nordman (U.S. Patent 6,061,346; hereafter “Nordman”) in view of Inoue, *et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,510,153; hereafter “Inoue”). The Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Therefore the Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, and further requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The requirements of a *prima facie* case of obviousness are set forth in MPEP §2143, which states, in part:

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

Applying at least two of the above requirements to the rejected claims, the Applicant respectfully submits that Nordman and Inoue, both singularly and in combination, fail to provide sufficient basis for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness. In particular, with regard to independent Claims 1, 9, 12, and 21, neither reference provides any suggestion or motivation for the proposed combination, nor do references teach or suggest all of the features of the rejected claims.

For instance, the method of Claim 1 recites, in part:

assigning a network address to the wireless client, wherein the network address has a lease period;

sending the assigned network address to the wireless client prior to establishing a secure link...

The rejection asserts that these features are taught, respectively, by Nordman at col. 4, lines 13–22 and col. 7, line 53 – col. 8, line 5. The Applicant disagrees.

While Nordman, col. 4, lines 17 and 18 describes, “An IP address is allocated to the wireless host by the private IP network,” the Applicant refers to the preceding description at col. 4, lines 4 – 17 to provide the cited description with its proper context:

When the wireless host requests access to the private IP network, communications are first authenticated at the wireless access network formed of the network infrastructure of the PLMN [public land mobile network]...The private IP network permits access to the wireless host if the wireless host identity provided thereto corresponds with the identity of a wireless host permitted to access the private IP network.

That is, Nordman does not teach “sending the assigned network address to the wireless client prior to establishing a secure link,” as recited in Claim 1. Rather, to the contrary, Nordman teaches that an IP address is allocated to the wireless host by the private IP network only after an authentication procedure has been performed to confirm that communications are permitted by way of the wireless access network (Nordman, col. 4, lines 7–9). The description at col. 7, line 53 – col. 8, line 5 of Nordman, as cited in the rejection, further supports the Applicant’s point by stating, “because the IP address and DNS name is provided at the private IP network, the wireless host 32, when permitted access to the

private IP network, becomes a virtual host of the network 14” (Nordman, col. 7, line 65 – col. 8, line 3).

Claim 1 further recites:

sending an address of a wireless access point to the wireless client, wherein the wireless access point is adapted to provided access to the network for the wireless client...

The rejection states that this feature is described by Nordman at col. 8, lines 12–23 and 57–67. However, the Applicant notes that these portions of Nordman are contextualized by the introduction at col. 8, lines 6 – 8 that, “Access of the wireless host 32 to others of the networks such as the HIPNs 96, 102, and 106, can analogously be effectuated.” Thus, the cited portions of Nordman are unrelated to an address of a wireless access point being sent to a wireless client, as in Claim 1.

The Applicant respectfully submits that Inoue does not address any of the features of Claim 1 described above, nor does Inoue compensate for the deficiencies of Nordman with regard to Claim 1 as set forth above.

Instead, the rejection cites Inoue to compensate for an acknowledged deficiency of Nordman. Specifically, it is acknowledged that Nordman does not teach the following feature recited in Claim 1:

if the wireless client fails to establish the secure link with the wireless access point and request a renewal of the assigned address via the secure link within the lease period, invalidating the assigned network address, thereby preventing the wireless client from accessing the network.

As the Applicant has submitted previously in this Response, Nordman is deficient with regard to Claim 1 since Nordman does not teach or suggest an assigned

network address being sent to a wireless client prior to establishing a secure link, as recited in Claim 1. Thus, the Applicant further submits that the mobile IP re-registration described by Inoue (col. 8, lines 47–55 and col. 10, lines 52–67) is outside the context of Nordman, since Nordman has not sufficiently described an initial registration, as in Claim 1.

Accordingly, with regard to Claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that neither Nordman nor Inoue provide sufficient motivation for the combination thereof proposed in the rejection. Also, the references, both singularly and in combination, fail to teach or suggest all of the features of Claim 1. Thus, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

The Applicant further submits that Claims 2–8 and 31–33 are patentably distinguishable over the proposed combination of Nordman and Inoue for at least the reasons set forth above due to their dependency upon Claim 1.

Claims 9 and 17 were rejected for the same reasons as Claims 1 and 6. However, independent Claim 9 does not recite the same features as Claim 1. Therefore, without acquiescing to the characterization of the rejected claims, the Applicant respectfully submits that neither Nordman nor Inoue, either singularly or in combination, teaches or suggests the features of independent Claim 9 or corresponding dependent Claims 10, 11, 17, and 18.

With regard to independent Claim 12, as well as corresponding dependent Claims 13–16, 19, and 20, the Applicant respectfully submits that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established. More particularly, the method of Claim 12 recites, in part:

receiving an assignment of an address from
the address server, the address having a lease time;

relaying the assignment of the address to the wireless client;
negotiating the establishment of a secure link with the wireless client; and
if the lease time expires before the secure link is established, denying the wireless client access to the network.

The Applicant has submitted arguments above to patentably distinguish these features from the proposed combination of Nordman and Inoue, with regard to Claim 1. The Applicant respectfully submits that the same arguments may be presently applied to distinguish Claim 12 and its corresponding dependent claims, as well.

Claims 21 and 26 were rejected for the same reasons as Claims 12 and 19. However, independent Claim 21 does not recite the same features as independent Claim 12. Therefore, without acquiescing to the characterization of the rejected claims, the Applicant respectfully submits that neither Nordman nor Inoue, either singularly or in combination, teaches or suggests the features of independent Claim 21 or corresponding dependent Claims 22–30.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established for any of the presently rejected claims. Therefore the present rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The remaining references of record have been studied. It is respectfully submitted that they do not compensate for the deficiencies of the cited references with respect to the rejected claims.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Early and forthright issuance of a Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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